REMARKS

By virtue of this amendment, claims 11-20 are pending in the application. Claims 1-10 have been cancelled without prejudice. New claims 11-20 have been added. The specification was amended to add section headers and to more clearly describe the invention. An Abstract in proper form was also added. Lastly, replacement figures were provided to properly identify Prior Art in figures 1 and 2. An examination of this application is respectfully requested in light of this preliminary amendment and the present remarks.

This preliminary amendment has been filed to place the application in better form for examination. The specification was amended to add section headers and to more clearly identify the bootstrap circuit (also known as a "starting circuit" or a "start up circuit") that is the subject of an embodiment of the present invention. A substitute Abstract in proper form has been added after the last page of the specification and claims. Replacement sheets of the drawing figures were provided to add the label "Prior Art" to figures 1 and 2. This properly identifies these figures to conform them to their description in the specification.

Additionally, see the attached annotated sheets showing changes where the "Prior Art" labels in figures 1 and 2 are circled in red for the Examiner's quick reference. No new matter has been added by all of these amendments. Additionally, claims 11-20 have been added to substitute for original claims 1-10, to place the application in better form for examination. No new matter has been added. An action on the merits is respectfully requested.

If for any reason the Examiner finds the application other than in condition for allowance, or the Examiner believes that there are any informalities which can be corrected by Examiner's amendment, a telephone call to the undersigned at (561) 989-9811 is respectfully solicited.

No amendment made was related to the statutory requirements of patentablity unless expressly stated herein. No amendment made was for the purpose of narrowing the scope of any claim, unless Applicants have argued herein that such amendment was made to distinguish over a particular reference or combination of references.

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The Commissioner is authorized to charge any fee due, or credit any overpayment, to Deposit Account No. 50-1556.

Respectfully submitted,

Date: January 19, 2005

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